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Secta. II-27—100,000—11-6-52.

(1948.) Department.

MS SERIES.

G.O. No. 708

708

Dated 22-7-48

22-7-48

[Despatch Abstract.]

Treasuries-Dt. Treasuries--Report on the Working during 1947-48-Recorded.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Subject.

TREASURIES- District Treasuries-Working during 1947-48- Accountant-General's Report- Reviewed.

...

Station: Madras,

Press No.14. Dated 30.6.1948.

From

P.M. Jayarajan Esq., Bar-at-Law, I.C.S.
Secretary, Board of Revenue,

To

S.Ranganathan Esq., O.B.E., I.C.S.,
Commissioner of Land Revenue and Commercial Taxes.

READ: From the Accountant-General, Madras T.M. 4-1-559/48-49 dated 14.6.1948.

...

Resolution:

The Board submits to the Government the Accountant-General's report on the working of the district treasuries in the Province during 1947-48. The report is based on the inspection of eight Treasuries by the Indian Audit Department and the the Accountant-General's own audit of alo the Treasuries during the year.

2. (1) Punctuality: The Accountant-General has reported that the inordinate delays noticed in the submission of accounts and returns during 1946-47 persisted in 1947-48 also. The piecemeal submission of the accounts with the supporting vouchers and documents together with the failure to render the accounts on the due dates considerably hampered the work and the programme of audit in the Accountant-General's Office and resulted in delay in the submission of accounts and returns to the Government and the Reserve Bank of India. The Accountant-General has pointed out that strict adherence to the rules regarding the safe custody of vouchers, proper scrutiny of documents received from sub-treasuries and timely call for the documents from the sub-treasuries are necessary to improve the present position in the submission of the accounts to his office. The Collectors are requested to instruct their Treasury Officers to follow the rules and to see that delays are avoided.

(2) The Accountant-General has classified the irregularities noticed in the accounts of several districts. In the accounts of Coimbatore, Madura, Kistna, Guntur, Nellore, Chingleput and North Arcot the defects observed are (1) failure to secure agreement in figures in the main and sub-accounts (2) failure to secure agreement in figures in Provincial and Central Accounts (3) arithmetical errors and (4) misclassification of suspense accounts. The Collectors concerned are requested to take necessary action to see that the irregularities pointed out do not recur.

(3) The Accountant-General has pointed out the delay in the submission of documents such as extract registers of deposits, plus and minus memo. of Local Funds, and replies to objection statements in the districts of Coimbatore, East Godari, Chingleput, Madura, Tinnevelly and Bellary. The Collectors concerned are requested to see that such delays are avoided in future.

(4) The Accountant-General has observed as case of failure to include receipts and payments in the Public accounts. Receipts and payments to the extent of Rs.14055/- relating to the period from October 1944 to March 1946 were not included in the accounts as the Officer in charge of Rampahodavaram Collecting Depot in the East Godavari district did not furnish periodical

statements showing receipts and payments supported by vouchers and chalans to the Treasury Office as required by rules and instructions in the Madras Treasury Code, Vol.I. The transactions were brought to account in June 1947. The Collector is requested to issue instructions to the Treasury Officer to avoid such irregularities in future.

P A R T. II.

A statement showing the number of irregularities reported against each district for the last three years is appended. During the year under report forty four irregularities were marked as against twenty five in the previous year. Of the defects 15 related to payment without proper authority, 7 to excess payments, 5 to delay in submission of accounts and 17 to errors and other irregularities. . . . .

During the year under report the treasury irregularities were 5 for Malabar 4 for North Arcot and South Kanara, 3 for East Godavari, Guntur, Madras and Coimbatore, 2 for Kistna, Bellary, Kurnool, Chingleput, Tanjore, Tiruchirapalli and Salem. The irregularities in the remaining distircts are either one or nil and do not call for remarks. The Collectors concerned especially, Malabar, North Arcot and South Kanara are requested to take steps to avoid recurrence of any irregularity in future.

P A R T III. Inspection of the Treasuries by the Indian Audit Department.

During the year under report eight treasuries were inspected; the same number as in last year.

P A R T IV. General.

The Board observes from the Accountant-General's report that there has been a little deterioration in work in the district treasuries during the year 1947-48 as compared to the work in the previous year. It hopes that with the additional temporary staff employed to cope with the increase of work there would be distinct improvement in the current year.

/True Extract/

Sd.xxxxx
For Secretary.

To the Secretary to the Government, Finance Department.
" Collectors of all districts.
" Accountant-General, T.M. Section.
---each with an appendix.

True Copy.

APPENDIX.

Statement showing the number of irregularities marked in the year 1947-48 and the proceding two years in each district.

DISTRICT.	1945-46.	1946-47.	1947-48.
Vizagapatam ...	2	4	1
East Godavari ...	-	-	3
West Godavari ...	1	2	-
Kistna ...	1	4	2
Guntur ...	-	-	3
Nellore ...	1	-	1
Cuddapah ...	-	1	-
Anantapur ...	1	2	1
Bellary ...	1	-	2
Madras ...	-	-	-
Kurnool ...	-	-	2
Chittoor ...	-	-	-
Chingleput ...	-	1	2
North Arcot ...	6	3	4
South Arcot ...	1	2	-
Tanjore ...	-	-	2
Tiruchirapalli ...	-	-	2
Madura ...	2	1	3
Ramnad ...	1	-	-
Tinnevelly ...	-	-	1
Coimbatore ...	1	2	3
The Nilgiris ...	1	2	1
Salem ...	2	1	2
South Kanara ...	-	-	4
Malabar ...	2	2	5
	23	25	44

True Copy

Copy of letter No.T.M.4-1-559/48 d/14-6-48 from the Accountant General, Madras.

...

Sub: Annual report on the working of treasuries in the Province of Madras during 1947-48.

...

With reference to G.O. Nos. 749, 63, and 139 and memo No.18611 (6) dated 5-9-1922, 28-1-1931, 24-2-1931 and 12-11-1932 respectively, I have the honour to submit the following report on the working of the treasuries in the Province of Madras during the year 1947-48.

I. (i) Delays in the submission of Treasuries Accounts.

The chronic and inordinate delays in the submission of treasury accounts to this office noticed during the previous year persisted during the year under report also-vide statement I below attached. The piecemeal submission of the various sub accounts and the appendices thereto- and of supporting schedules and vouchers and other documents continued to be a regular feature. This failure of the Treasuries to render the accounts in complete shape in time considerably dislocated the programme of audit and accouting work in this office and made it very difficult to adhere to the due dates prescribed for submission not only of the monthly Civil Accounts but also of the several other returns, advices etc, die to Government, various departmental authorities, the Reserve Bank of India and account officers of other audit circles. In particular the sub account No.25. for March 1948was not received from the Coimbatore Treasury till 11-5-48. There were abnormal delays in the submission of annual and monthly returns relating to deposit transactions in most treasuries. The piecemeal and belated submission of Treasury accounts were attributed by the Treasury officers to inadequacy and in-capacity of the Treasury staff coupled with sudden and frequent changes of the staff and late receipt of accounts and vouchers from the sub-treasury officers; loss in transit of vouchers from the sub-treasury to the Treasury or misplacement of the same in treasuries. A strict observance of the rules regarding the safe custody of vouchers, the exercise of proper scritiny over the documents received from Sub Treasuries along with the daily sheets and timely call for wanting documents from the sub-treasuries are required in order to improve the present unsatisfactory position in the submission of vouchers etc. to this office.

The Collector of Coimbatore has stated that it is not possible to adhere to the due dates unless the staff which was suddenly reduced by more than 20% is restored, while the Collector of Bellary has stated that unless the staff is strengthened by postinng efficient and experienced accountants there is no scope for improvement and that the arrears cannot be cleared until the special staff applied for is sanctioned by Government.

With reference to the suggestion referred to in the last report, the due date for closing the accounts of sub-treasuries situated at a long distance from the district headquarters has been revised and Government have in their memorandum No.236 Bc-2 (Finance). d/17-3-48 issued orders to the Collector's to take steps to ensure that the due dates are strictly adhered to.

(2) Defects in the preparation of accounts.

(a) Failure to secure agreement between the figures in the main account, the corresponding totals in the sub accounts, and the totals as per the appendices under state provident funds, advances repayable etc.,was noticed in the Treasury accounts of East Godavari, North Arcot, South Arcot, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Madura, Ramnad, Combatore and the Nilgris.

(b) The tendency to transfer to the suspense heads Suspense receipts in cash.-other items" and "Suspense payments in cash-other items" differences noticed in the reconciliation of figures

between the main and sub accounts mentioned in the previous report was exemplified during the year under report by one instance in the accounts of the Bellary Treasury, while many items of receipts and payments were shown against these heads in the accounts of the Bellary Treasury, while many items of receipts and payments were shown against these heads in the accounts of Vizagapatam, Guntur, Nellore and Madura without any attempt to clear them. This has resulted in old and uncleared outstandings dating as far back as October 1946.

(c) The essential check of effecting agreement between the Provincial and Central accounts in respect of the net figures arrived at under the remittance head "Adjusting account between Central and Provincial Governments" was not effectively exercised by Nellore, Guntur, Chingleput, and Tanjore treasuries.

(d) Details for the credits under the various debt heads, loans to local bodies, account with the Government of Burma Account with the Reserve Bank, Advances repayable, Permanent advance, charitable Endowments were not noted in Sub-Account No.27 in the districts of Vizagapatam, West Godavari, Guntur, Nellore, Chingleput, Madura, Coimbatore, Salem and Malabar.

(e) Arithmetical errors in the treasury accounts were noticed in the accounts of South Arcot and Coimbatore.

(f) A number of misclassifications under "Suspense Accounts-Agriculture" loans to cultivation" Highways Suspense" were noticed in the treasury accounts of Anantapur, Madura, Coimbatore, and North Arcot.

(g) Memoranda of vouchers retained at the Treasruy were not sent regularly by the Treasuries of West Godavari, Kistna, Bellary, North Arcot, Tinnevelly, South Kanara, Chittoor, and the Nilgiris.

(h) Schedules for Public Works Remittances and Division-War details for Forest Remittances were not furnished in the T Treasury accounts of Salem and Malabar.

(i) Statements receonciling the net amount credited or debited to Reserve Bank Suspense during the month by the Bank were not-furnished with the Treasury accounts of West Godavari, Kistna, Kurnool and Coimbatore.

(j) The Treasury accounts accounts of Kistna, Chingleput, and Coimbatore were not signed by the Collector consecutively for six months as below:-

Kistna-September 1947 to March 1948.

Chingleput-August 1947-to February 1948.

Coimbatore- August 1947- to January 1948.

(3) Delays in the submission of other documents.

There were delays in the submission of the following document.

(a) Extract registers of deposits, lists of repayment of deposits with vouchers, plus and minus memorandum of deposits. The delay was a regular feature in most treasuries e.g. East Godavari, Vizagapatam, Guntur, Nellore, Bellary, Kurnnol, Chingleput, Tinnevelly, Coimbatore, the Nilgiris, Salem and Malabar, Inordinate and chronic delays were noticed in East Godavari, Nellore, Bellary, Chingleput and Coimbatore.

(b) Plus and minus memorandum of Local Funds were delayed by the Vizagapatam, East Godavri, West Godavari, Nellore, Chingeleput, North Arcot, Madura, Tinnevelly, and Coimbatore treasuries.

(c) Vouchers were not received on the due dates and are still due in respect of old periods especially those relating to account the Burma, Inter-Provincial Suspense Accounts from Vizagapatam, East Godavari, Kistna, South Arcot, Trichinopoly, Madura, Ramnad Coimbatore, Tinnevelly and Malabar.

(d) Objection statements were not returned with replies within a fortnight by several treasuries viz. East Godavari, West Godavari Kurnool, Chingleput, Coimbatore, the Nilgiris, Salem, Madura and Anantapur.

(e) The paid vouchers relating the Pykara Electricity scheme are required to be sent to the Superintending Engineer, Pykara Coimbatore by the Treasury Officer, Coimbatore every month. The First batch for the period 1st to 10th and the second batch for the period from 11th to end of the month are required to be sent within a week of the close of the periods of retransmission to this office after incorporation in Superintending Engineer's accounts. Inordinate and persistent delays were noticed in the transmission of the vouchers to the Superintending Engineer month after month involving a corresponding delay in the receipt of the vouchers in this office from the Superintending Engineer.

(f) Failure to include receipts and payments in the Public Account.

Receipts (including remittances by the District Forest Officer, Lower Godavari Division) and payments to the extent of Rs.14,055 at the Rampahhodavaram collecting depot of East Godavari Dist. relating to the period from Oct.1944 to March 1946 were not included in the Public account owing to the failure on the part of the official in charge of the depot to furnish periodical statements showing the gross receipts and payments supported by chalans and vouchers to the Treasury officer as required in Instruction 2 under Treasury Rule 7 of Madras Treasury Code, Volume I. This failure came to light due to the non-clearance of outstanding amounts under "Forest Remittances" in the Departmental accounts. The transactions were brought to account by the Treasury only in June 1947. The Treasury Officer could have avoided the omission if he had called for the statement then and there.

II. Treasury Irregualrities.

The Treasury Irregularities of the various kinds marked during the year are shown in statement No.II.44 Treasury Irregularities were marked during the year as against 25 in the previous year. Out of the irregularities marked, 15 related to payment without proper authority, 7 to excess payments & to delay in submission of accounts and 17 to errors and other irregularities.

III. Inspection of Treasuries.

The following eight Dist. Treasuries were inspected during the year.

Chingleput, South Arcot, Malabar, West Godavari, Salem, Madura, Coimbatore, and East Godavari.

The results of inspection have been communicated to the Collectors concerned. Delay in the disposal of the inspection dreports pointed out in paragraph III of the last year's report persisted during the year under report also. The report relating to Chingleput dist. Treasury which was issued to the Collectory on 27-6-47 was received back with replies on 9-4-48 i.e. after a delay of about 10 months. This fact was also brought to the notice of the Board in T.M. 4-1-28/47-48 dated 6-4-1948.

IV. General.

A few clerks from the Audit office were deputed to the District Treasuries of Vizagapatam, Coimbatore, Madura, West Godavari

and Kistna to work under the Collector's for a period of 3 to 4 months to clear off arrears and bring the work of these treasuries upto date. Vide paragraph IV of the last year's report. It may be said that the scheme worked well and was of educative value, but it is obviously not possible to depute men from the audit office long enough to clear completely the considerable volume of arrears in all the treasuries. The arrangement, however, demonstrated the feasibility of efficient work under properly trained personnel and such men have now to be found and trained within the department and utilised to the fullest extent for keeping up the standard of work in the Treasuries.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

Sd/.

Accountant-General.

True Copy.

STATEMENT I.

Statement showing dates of receipt of Treasury Accounts in 1947-48.

S No.	Name of Treasury	Due Date.	4/47	5/47	6/47	7/47	8/47	8/47	9/47	10/47	11/47	12/47	1/48	2/48	3/48
1.	Vizagapatam	10	12	11	11	11	26	9	14	12	10	15	11	11	21
2.	Godavari East	8	14	10	11	11	27	10	10	10	11	12	13	12	19
3.	Godavari West	8	12	11	10	9	25	9	11	10	10	15	10	10	19
4.	Kistna	8	12	13	12	13.	1/9/47	9	14	10	9	12	16	15	24
5.	Guntur	8	12	11	8	9	27	9	10	10	9	10	9	10	19
6.	Nellore	8	8	11	8	9	27	9	11	12	9	9	9	10	15
7.	Cuddapah	8	12	10	10	9	28	9	9	10	12	12	10	11	21
8.	Anantapur.	8	12	13	15	9	27	9	14	10	12	12	13	13	21
9.	Bellary	8	9	11	12	12	25	9	10	13	10	12	13	11	20
10.	Kurnool	8	12	17	17	11	27	9	14	15	16	15	14	16	26
11	Madras	7	7	7	7	7	26	6	7	7	6	7	7	8	8
12.	Chingleput	8	12	10	15	13	27	9	11	14	15	15	19	19	19
13	Chittoor	7	7	11	9	11	27	9	14	10	10	12	10	11	20
14.	North Arcot	7	8	9	10	12	25	6	9	8	9	12	10	10	14
15.	South Arcot	8	8	11	9	8	26	9	9	13	9	9	9	10	15
16.	Tanjore	8	8	9	10	8	25	9	9	8	9	10	9	8	12
17.	Trichinopoly	8	8	10	10	12	27	9	14	13	9	12	9	10	20
18.	Madura	8	12	9	9	11	26	9	10	10	11	15	11	17	29
19.	Ramnad	8	8	10	9	9	1/9/47	6	10	10	8	8	11	10	19
20.	Tinnevelly	8	9	7	7	11	26	9	10	8	8	8	10	8	12
21.	Coimbatore	8	9	10	10	11	26	9	14	13	10	12	9	13	24
22.	The Nilgris	8	8	9	10	11	23	6	10	12	9	19	9	10	12
23.	Salem	8	7	7	8	7	25	9	7	8	8	8	9	8	12
24.	South Kanara	9	12	11	10	11	25	9	10	10	10	12	11	10	14
25.	Malabar.	8	9	11	10	11	25	10	10	10	10	15	15	11	21
26.	Bangalore.	9	9	11	10	12	26	10	10	10	10	10	10	11	12

True Copy.

STATEMENT II.

Statement of Treasury Irregularities.

	Payment without authorisation from this office.	Excess payments.	Delay in submission	Errors and other irregularities.	Total.
Vizagapatam			1		1
East Godavari			1	2	3
West Godavari					-
Kistna	1		1	2	2
Guntur	1			2	3
Nellore	1				1
Cuddapah		1			-
Anantapur		1			1
Bellary	2				2
Kurnool				2	2
Madras					-
Chingleput	2				2
Chittoor					-
North Arcot	1	1		2	4
South Arcot					-
Tanjore	1			1	2
Trichinopoly	1			1	2
Madura — Ramnad		1		2	3
Tinnevelly	1				-
Coimbatore	2	1			1
The Nilgiris		1			3
Salem	1		1		1
South Kanara	1			3	2
Malabar		2	1	2	4
Total...	15	7	5	17	5
					44

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Sd
for Secretary

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
Abstract.

G.O. No.708, Finance Exp.A, Dated 22-7-1948.

Treasuries- District Treasuries -Report on the working during 1947-48. Recorded.

- -

Read the following:-

From the Board of Revenue,
Resolution Press No. 14
dated 30.6.48.

O R D E R:

R E C O R D E D.

(By Order of His Excellency the Governor)

Sd, xxxxxxxxxx
Secretary to Government.

Copy to the Accountant-General;
to the Board of Revenue;
to the Revenue Department.

True Copay

Superintendent,
Madras Record Office.

Mg.

WM 17/8